

Salt Spray Testing and Evaluation of Fastener Finishes

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1. SCOPE:

This procedure is used to test and evaluate the resistance of fastener surface finishes to laboratory salt spray testing.

2. REFERENCES:

2.1 ASTM Publications:

Available from ASTM, 100 Barr Harbor Drive, West Conshohocken, PA 19428-2959.

ASTM B 117

ASTM D 610

3. APPARATUS:

3.1 Salt Spray Cabinet:

The salt spray cabinet and operating conditions shall meet the requirements of ASTM B 117 except as noted herein.

3.2 Sample Holders:

Sample holders shall be made of an inert corrosion resistant material such as acrylic, polyvinyl chloride or similar material. The holder size and thickness depends upon the size and number of fasteners being tested. No wood shall be used in the construction of sample holders as the sap acidity can affect the corrosion result.

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4. TEST PROCEDURE:

4.1 Sample Preparation:

All samples to be tested shall have been properly prepared by the usual manufacturing process required for that particular finish. Prior to salt spray testing, the parts shall be washed in a mild noncorrosive, phosphate-free detergent solution (approximately 20 mL detergent to 15 L of water) at $21\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C} \pm 3\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ for 10 to 15 s, rinsed in tap water and then blown dry with compressed air. The detergent shall have a pH of 8.2 to 9.2 (LiquiNox Detergent, Fisher Catalog item 04-322-15B or equivalent).

4.2 Sample Assembly:

Assemble samples to a Sample Holder designed for the configuration of the fastener.

4.2.1 External Threaded Fasteners: Fasteners shall be mounted on the sample holder such that the test solution will not drip onto fasteners below when the sample is positioned as shown in Figure 1.

4.2.2 Internal Threaded and Other Types of Fasteners: For samples such as nuts, washers, and clips, place the samples on a glass or plastic rod or hang by nylon thread of suitable length to hold parts without contacting each other. The rods or nylon thread shall then be supported in the cabinet such that the solution will not drip from one sample onto another.

4.3 Sample Position:

Place the holder and samples in the salt spray cabinet with the primary axis of the holder at $25^{\circ} \pm 3^{\circ}$ from the vertical.

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